

**MILL CREEK ELEMENTARY COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 23, 2017**

Attending: Whitney Smith, Trent Eckman, Dee Caldwell, Harmony Starr

School Updates from Dee:

- Bond support signs are available in the office.
- NetSmarts came to school and gave assembly presentation about internet safety.
- Red Ribbon Week is this week, students where different colors on different days.
- This Thursday is Halloween Parade, on a short day at end of week as requested by teachers

Group discussion about DLI Gifted/Talented Proposal:

What questions do we have for Ann?

- When is proposal due?

Info from West Kearns DLI Gifted/Talented program would help give us a better idea of how to draft proposal and what to expect should it be approved:

- How long has West Kearns had this program?
- If we adopt the same kind of program, what would change in our school?
 - Would require configuration of classrooms if have one classroom devoted to dual.
 - Other schools have one traditional classroom, we have dual – SPED is also (10 per) in each traditional classroom.
 - GRADES 2, 3 and 4 teachers are “guest teachers” who can stay for 3 years but don’t have to stay. How would needing a gifted certification impact this kind of set-up?
- What are the differences between our program and theirs?
 - ie. they use 1 teacher system versus 2. Why?
- What are some things they’ve learned over the years implementing this program, adaptations they’ve made etc., that we could learn from to help create our program?
- How many applicants has the West Kearns program had in recent years? That might give us an idea how many were turned away (if any). Students turned away from that program (as overflow) may be part of the population we attract, unless distance is a factor.
- The school website for their program:
<http://schools.graniteschools.org/westkearns/dual-language-immersion/>
- Principal: Brent Nelson
- Phone: 385-646-5073 Email: blnelson@graniteschools.org

- **Ann and/or Harmony should contact principal to ask these questions and open a dialogue**

Dee initiated discussion about ways Community Council can be more effective in helping the school:

- PTA is struggling somewhat this year as opposed to last year as we lost leadership. We should be working on beefing up the PTA whenever possible by engaging parents at different events and encouraging participation. If they can't make the daytime meetings it is totally OK to volunteer in the evening.
- There was a soft rollout of "Donate" button on MCE website. People probably don't know this because website is rarely visited since it is largely out-of-date and lacking timely info.
- Ways we as council can push improvement of tech and communications –
- We have a school tech person named Tiffany who is probably being underutilized, we should direct her with ways we can improve the website to encourage parents to visit it for info (and thus see Donate button)
- Who is in charge of social media (Facebook, Instagram)? Last year it looked like Rachel was the one posting pics? We could post more on social media with links also to the website (as a place to see the pictures). For instance, every other week we could feature a different grade to show what they're up to.
- Class Dojo app – some teachers use and some don't. Is there a way to standardize a little more so we can roll out sharing in a more efficient way?
- Viviana in 3rd grade would be amenable to taking on this kind of thing, but again, just need direction -- which Community Council could potentially spearhead

NEXT MEETING IS NOV 27th at 3:40pm